

2-9-93 Minutes

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Bedford, Virginia, was held in the Council Hall of the Municipal Building at 7:30 p.m., February 9, 1993.

Members present: Mayor G. Michael Shelton; Councilman Larry D. Brookshier; Councilwoman Joanne A. Grahame; Councilman Payton M. Otey; Councilman Ronnie C. Rice; and Councilman W. D. Tharp.

Members absent: Vice Mayor James A. Vest.

Staff present: City Manager Jack A. Gross; City Attorney W. W. Berry, IV; and Clerk of the Council Teresa W. Hatcher.

Mayor Shelton opened the meeting and led all present in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Shelton welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 183 who were attending the meeting for the purpose of working on their Citizenship Merit Badges.

Mayor Shelton declared that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on January 26, 1993, were approved as mailed.

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilman Otey, voted upon and carried, the following items were added to the agenda:

Report on City/County School Contract - Chairman of the City School Board

Presentation - Mr. Don Owen

During the "Council Comments" portion of the agenda, several members of Council spoke regarding various subjects.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following public hearing notice:

The City of Bedford will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 9, 1993, at 7:30 p.m., during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting at the Municipal Building, 215 East Main Street, Bedford, Virginia. The public hearing is being held as a part of the franchise renewal process for cable television service, and the purpose of the hearing is to solicit citizens' input on cable television service and programming in the City. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to make their views known.

The City Manager stated that a customer satisfaction survey regarding cable television service and programming was distributed to all households in the City as a part of the State Income Tax mailing, and the results have been summarized in a report.

Mr. Wayne Hale, Engineering Technician made a presentation regarding the survey results.

Mayor Shelton opened the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

The following individuals spoke at the public hearing:

Mr. Robert Rucker, Avenel Avenue, suggested that the City own the cable television franchise and spend the extra money on the school system.

Ms. Phyllis Parker, 1802 Longwood Avenue Ext., presented a petition with 147 names requesting that Bedford Cablevision consider adding the BET Channel to its system.

Ms. Matty Morris, 549 Edmund Street, indicated that she did not receive a survey.

Mayor Shelton stated that the public hearing would remain open indefinitely in order to continue to receive survey results; and that a further tabulation of the results will be completed at a future date. The Mayor indicated that at a certain determined time the public hearing will be officially closed.

City School Board Chairman Janice Martinez called the School Board meeting to order.

Chairman Martinez stated that the School Board feels that parts of the City/County school contract are redundant. The School Board believes that in order to facilitate reviewing the contract, that certain language could be removed from it, which is the revision the Board is proposing.

Chairman Martinez stated that it is the consensus of the City School Board to continue with the contract. Ms. Martinez is to prepare a marked contract showing the proposed changes and give copies of it to Council.

The next quarterly meeting with Council and the City School Board was scheduled for May 11.

Mr. Don Owen, 816 Helm Street, spoke to Council concerning his request for a building permit, the City Manager's attitude regarding building permit procedures, and the actions of the Building Inspector. Mr. Owen explained the situation.

Mayor Shelton told Mr. Owen that Council would take his concerns and address this with the City Manager.

The City Manager stated that bids have been received for the reroofing of the fire house and the low bid was submitted by Melvin T. Morgan in the amount of \$21,500. Mr. Gross stated that since \$10,385 was appropriated in the 1992-93 budget, an additional appropriation of \$11,115 will be required in order to complete this project.

Councilman Rice moved that Council appropriate the sum of \$11,115 from the unappropriated contingency to Account Number 0303203201070055 for the reroofing of the fire house. The motion was seconded by Councilman Otey, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilman Brookshier	aye
Councilwoman Grahame	aye
Councilman Otey	aye
Councilman Rice	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	absent

Mayor Shelton

aye

The City Manager stated that Council had received a copy of an option which was prepared by the City Attorney and executed by himself and by James W. Peters and Betty C. Peters, giving the City the right to purchase the Peters property adjacent to the new landfill for a price of \$45,000. Mr. Gross indicated that the option must be exercised by February 15. Money for the purchase of this property has been included in the VRA bond issue for the landfill. The City Manager stated that Council also received the City Attorney's Preliminary Title Report in which he recommends that a new plat of the property be prepared. Under the terms of the option, the City has agreed to bear the costs of such a plat.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that Council direct the City Manager to exercise the option and to close the transaction before March 1, 1993. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tharp, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilwoman Grahame	aye
Councilman Otey	aye
Councilman Rice	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	absent
Councilman Brookshier	aye
Mayor Shelton	aye

On motion by Councilman Rice, seconded by Councilwoman Grahame, voted upon and carried by a roll call vote, Council adjourned into executive session for:

Discussions concerning acquisition and use of real property for public purposes, investing of public funds where competition is involved, and consultation with legal counsel concerning legal advice in reference to the library, pursuant to Sections 2.1-344(a)(3), 2.1-344(a)(6), and 2.1-344(a)(7).

Roll call vote follows:

Councilman Otey	aye
Councilman Rice	aye
Councilman Tharp	aye
Vice Mayor Vest	absent
Councilman Brookshier	aye

Councilwoman Grahame aye

Mayor Shelton aye

School Board Chairman Martinez adjourned the School Board meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Council adjourned into executive session at 8:18 p.m. after a five-minute recess declared by the Mayor. Non-council members attending were: City Manager Gross, City Attorney Berry, and Clerk of the Council Hatcher.

Council reconvened into open session at 10:45 p.m.

The Clerk of Council read aloud the following proposed resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Bedford hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Council.

Councilwoman Grahame moved that the resolution be adopted as read. The motion was seconded by Councilman Otey, voted upon and carried by the following roll call vote:

Councilman Rice aye

Councilman Tharp aye

Vice Mayor Vest absent

Councilman Brookshier aye

Councilwoman Grahame aye

Councilman Otey aye

Mayor Shelton aye

Mayor Shelton adjourned the meeting at 10:46 p.m.